

Message Text

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SUBJ: KAUNDA OPENS EIGHTH NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING WITH CALL FOR
"PURIFICATION" OF ZAMBIA FROM FOREIGN CULTURAL AND
IDEOLOGICAL IMPERIALISM

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT KAUNDA OPENED EIGHTH SESSION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HIS RULING UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY APRIL 27. PRESIDENT'S SPEECH CONTAINED STRONG ATTACK ON CAPITALISM AND (LESS STRONGLY) ON MARXISM-LENINISM AS FORMS OF IDEOLOGICAL IMPERIALISM TO BE SHUNNED BY ZAMBIANS. KAUNDA CALLED FOR POLITICAL AND CULTURAL PURIFICATION OF ZAMBIAN SOCIETY, ROOTING OUT CORRUPTION AND TRIBALISM, ANNOUNCED NEW GUIDELINES FOR LOANS WHICH WOULD TEND FAVOR RURAL OVER URBAN AND COOPERATIVES OVER PRIVATE BORROWERS. OF PARTICULAR NOTE WAS HIS OFFER OF 17 DAY GRACE PERIOD TO THOSE WHO HAVE ACQUIRED WEALTH ILLEGALLY TO CONFESS TO HIM. NO MENTION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUES IN SPEECH WHICH WAS LARGELY REHASH OF FAMILIAR THEMES AND REITERATION OF CRITICISMS OF OBSTACLES TO CONSTRUCTIN OF HUMANIST SOCIETY WHICH KAUNDA HAS SET AS ZAMBIA'S GOAL. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN NEARLY THREE HOUR SPEECH DELIVERED AFTERNOON APRIL 27 FOLLOWING MORNING OF MEETINGS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, PRESIDENT KAUNDA OPENED EIGHTH SESSION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL, HIGHEST POLICY MAKING LEVEL OF HIS RULING UNIP. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS DEALT WHOLLY WITH DOMESTIC ISSUES AND DID NOT ADDRESS FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. NOR WAS THERE ANY COMMENT ON PRESIDENT'S MEETINGS THAT MORNING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER OR OF LATTER'S STATEMENT ON RHODESIA DELIVERED FOLLOWING STATE HOUSE LUNCHEON IN HIS HONOR. FOCUS INSTEAD WAS PRIMARILY ON THOSE OBSTACLES REMAINING TO CONSTRUCTION OF THE IDEAL HUMANIST SOCIETY IN ZAMBIA AND THE NEED TO COMBAT FOREIGN IDEOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES WHICH HAVE CONTINUED TO MISLEAD SOME ZAMBIANS AND DIVERT THEM FROM GOALS PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAS SO OFTEN URGED THEM TO PURSUE.

3. FOREIGN IDEOLOGIES. PRESIDENT CRITICIZED THOSE IN ZAMBIA TODAY WHO ARE ATTRACTED BY FOREIGN IDEOLOGIES. HE HIT HARDEST AT CAPITALISM, WHICH HE ALLEGED HAS CORRUPTION INHERENT IN IT (REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO SCANDALS INVOLVING ITT IN CHILE, LOCKHEED, AND OTHER MULTINATIONALS), AND AT THOSE ZAMBIANS WHO WANT THEIR COUNTRY TO BE "CARBON COPY OF THEIR FAVORITE CONSUMER SOCIETY." BUT KAUNDA ALSO WARNED AGAINST ATTRACTIONS OF MARXISM-LENINISM, NOTING THAT WHILE IT IS AN ALLY IN ZAMBIA'S STRUGGLE AGAINST CAPITALISM "ALLIES ARE NOT MASTERS." ZAMBIANS HAVE THEIR OWN INDIGENOUS REVOLUTION; "SOCIALISM HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE IDEOLOGY OF THE ZAMBIAN PEOPLE." KAUNDA ADDED THAT HE NOT TALKING AGAINST COOPERATION WITH CAPITALIST OR MARXIST-LENINIST FOREIGN STATES, ONLY AGAINST IMPORTATION OF THEIR IDEOLOGIES.

4. CULTURAL IMPERIALISM. PRESIDENT SPENT MUCH TIME ON NEED FOR ZAMBIANS TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN CULTURAL HERITAGE. HE WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF ALLEGEDLY HARMFUL INFLUENCE OF FOREIGN TEACHERS IN ZAMBIAN SCHOOLS, ESPECIALLY AT UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA (UNZA). TEACHERS WILL HENCEFORTH BE VESTED MORE CAREFULLY, ESPECIALLY TO WEED OUT THOSE WHO TAKE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS ON CAMPUS; GREATER PARTY CONTROL WILL BE EXERTED OVER UNZA "TO PROMOTE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE ON CAMPUS."

5. CORRUPTION. PRESIDENT DEPLORED CORRUPTION IN GRANTING OF LOANS AND PROPOSED IMMEDIATE INTERIM GUIDELINES THAT WOULD RESTRICT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEW LOANS TO RURAL COOPERATIVES, FOOD PRODUCTION UNITS, AND THOSE PRIVATE BUSINESSES PREPARED TO IMPLEMENT WORKER PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY. MOST INTERESTING PART OF SPEECH WAS ANNOUNCEMENT OF 17-DAY GRACE PERIOD APRIL 28 -MAY 15 DURING WHICH ALL ZAMBIANS WHO HAVE ACQUIRED WEALTH ILLEGALLY OR CONTRARY TO PARTY RULES CAN WRITE CONFIDENTIALLY TO PRESIDENT, CONFESSING THEIR ERROR AND EXPLAINING HOW THEY WILL DISPOSE OF THEIR ILLEGAL WEALTH. HE WARNED THAT ANY LEADER WHO FAILED TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GRACE

PERIOD WILL BE EXPOSED AND BROUGHT BEFORE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL.

END UNCLASSIFIED. PRESIDENT DID NOT REFER TO ANY SPECIFIC CASES OF CORRUPTION BUT MAY HAVE HAD IN MIND CASE CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION INVOLVING TWO DETAINED AMERICAN CITIZENS YATES AND WHITFIELD AND WHICH IS SAID ALSO TO INVOLVE IMPORTANT POLITICAL FIGURES.

6. COMMENT: SPEECH WAS MOSTLY RETRED OF FAMILIAR THEMES AND ADMONITIONS TO ZAMBIANS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE ELITE, TO LOOK LESS TO LINING THEIR OWN POCKETS AND MORE TOWARDS PROMOTING THE HUMANIST AND EGALITARIAN SOCIETY. CAPITALISM WAS LIBERALLY DENOUNCED BUT, EXCEPT FOR THE NEW GUIDELINES ON THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS, NO NEW RESTRICTIONS ON PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WERE RECOMMENDED TO THE PARTY FOR CONSIDERATION.
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